

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is requested.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 8-12 and 14 remain in the application. Claims 2, 3, 5, 7 and 13 have been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 3. Claims 4, 8 and 9 have been amended to achieve proper dependency in view of the cancellation of claims 2 and 7. New claim 14 has been added and includes the limitations of original claims 1 and 2, plus additional limitations to define the configuration of the grooves more clearly.

Claims 1 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) in view of Baldwin. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Heller et al. However, the Examiner identified original claims 3, 5 and 7-12 as being directed to patentable subject matter. The Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowed if amended or rewritten into independent form with all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

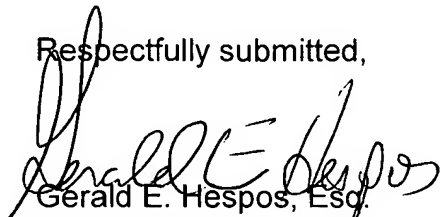
Patentable claim 3 depended from claim 2 which in turn depended from claim 1. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 2 plus the limitations of patentable claim 3. Hence, amended claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 4, 6 and 8-12 now depend directly or indirectly from allowable claim 1, and hence should be allowed as well.

New claim 14 includes all of the limitations of original claims 1 and 2 plus additional detail to define a plurality of circumferentially spaced communication grooves formed in the communicating inner circumferential surface. Parts of the communicating inner circumferential surface where no communication groove is formed are defined in new

claim 14 as being the minimum inner-diameter parts. Each of the communication grooves of new claim 14 is defined further as having "a bottom which is inclined rearwardly." It is submitted that the prior art has no suggestion of the hydraulic master cylinder set forth in new claim 14.

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, it is submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are directed to patentable subject matter and allowance is solicited. The Examiner is urged to contact applicant's attorney at the number below to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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